

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making a sulphided ion exchange resin from an ion exchange resin containing primary or secondary amino groups and the concomitant removal of elemental sulphur from a liquid hydrocarbon feedstock, comprising passing said feedstock containing elemental sulphur through a bed of ~~an~~ the ion exchange resin containing primary or secondary amino groups, thereby forming a sulphided ion exchange resin, ~~containing primary or secondary amino groups wherein water is removed from the ion exchange resin before use.~~
2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the liquid hydrocarbon feedstock is passed through a bed of a hydrogen sulphide absorbent after passage through the bed of the ion exchange resin.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the ion exchange resin is in the form of a fixed bed of shaped units having maximum and minimum dimensions in the range 0.5 to 10 mm.
5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein liquid hydrocarbon feedstock is contacted with the ion exchange resin bed at temperatures in the range -10°C to +100°C under sufficient pressure that the feedstock is in the liquid state.
6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the ion exchange resin is periodically regenerated by treatment with an acid.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the liquid hydrocarbon is selected from the group consisting of natural gas liquids and gasoline.
9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein said liquid hydrocarbon feedstock further comprises mercury or inorganic mercury compounds, and wherein at least the inlet portion of the bed of an exchange resin is sulphided before a mercury

containing stream is passed through the bed, thereby to remove said mercury or organic mercury compounds from said liquid hydrocarbon feedstock.

10. (Cancelled)
11. (Currently Amended) A method for the removal of mercury and organic mercury compounds from a liquid hydrocarbon feedstock comprising passing the feedstock through a bed of a sulphided ion exchange resin ~~containing primary or secondary amine groups~~ obtained by the method according to claim 1.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11 wherein the liquid hydrocarbon is selected from the group consisting of natural gas liquids and gasoline.
15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11 wherein the ion exchange resin is in the form of a fixed bed of shaped units having maximum and minimum dimensions in the range 0.5 to 10 mm.
16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11 wherein the liquid hydrocarbon feedstock is contacted with the ion exchange resin bed at temperatures in the range -10°C to +100°C under sufficient pressure that the feedstock is in the liquid state.